



**National
Trust**

**News from Richard Higgs Project Manager
- your chance to help tell the story...**

As I am sure you are aware the National Trust will take on the management of Tredegar House this March and we are planning to open the House and Garden at Easter. We want to build on the great work Newport City Council has done and also continue working with groups such as the Friends who have provided so much support over the years. With the expected numbers who will visit this year we have been thinking how best to both accommodate everyone and provide the very best experience. We have started working with the staff at Tredegar House to really understand what is important about the place and what stories it holds, and have carried out some research in the local area to find out what people feel about the place. This will help shape the way we present the house and share it with people this year.

We have decided to make the daily visit a combination of "free flow" and a range of guided tours, some free for visitors and available throughout the day together with specialist tours that can be pre-booked.

To achieve this we are looking for help in a number of ways and with the Friends long history of helping at Tredegar House we hope you will continue to get involved, particularly as I know many of you have helped steward rooms at Easter and Christmas and other special occasions in the past.

Our vision for Tredegar House is a shared one, in which we invite the people of Newport and South East Wales to come and help us tell the stories and reveal the secrets that this beautiful place has long held. Stories that in a very real way help paint the bigger picture of Newport and its place in the industrial revolution that ultimately shaped the world in which we now live.

There are a wide variety of ways to get involved, and this will only be the beginning. Over the next few weeks and months we invite you to give donations of time, no matter how big or small, to the process of interpreting Tredegar House's secrets, telling its story and preparing to let the world in.

Claire Hovey, Volunteer Campaign Officer starts with the Trust at Tredegar this week and will be responsible for the recruitment and training of all the volunteers we need to make this happen, so for more information do contact Claire on claire.hovey@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01633 815880.

The opportunities available range from the very informal (drop-in and take part in an activity on the way home from work for an hour) to more on-going roles and some structured opportunities such as internships. There'll also be opportunities for people of all ages and for those who would like to bring their friends or family along too!

Whatever your motivations (meeting people, developing new skills, being in a nice place or generally just finding out more) we have something for you!

We look forward to meeting you.